

## **Service-Learning: The Focus of Dallas Baptist University's Quality Enhancement Plan**

### **Institutional Mission and Culture**

Central in Dallas Baptist University's mission statement is the vision to produce servant leaders. In order to be more intentional in facilitating this goal, the campus community resoundingly identified service-learning as the University-wide initiative to enhance student learning.

### **Definition**

At Dallas Baptist University, service-learning is defined as a teaching and learning strategy that integrates academic instruction, community service, and guided reflection from a Christ-centered, faith-based perspective in order to enhance student learning, foster civic responsibility, and develop servant leaders.

### **Service-Learning Mission**

The mission of DBU's Service-Learning Program is to enhance student learning and to support the University's overall mission to produce servant leaders who have the ability to integrate faith and learning through their respective callings by

- Communicating the importance and purpose of service-learning to faculty, staff, and students;
- Assisting faculty in the integration of service-learning into the curriculum of every student's degree plan;
- Encouraging faculty and staff involvement in the incorporation of service-learning into student co-curricular activities;
- Coordinating and promoting civic engagement in selected community service projects; and
- Providing support and resources to establish mutually beneficial campus and community relationships.

### **University Partnership**

In order to implement this strategy, DBU utilizes Student Affairs and Academic Affairs as two essential avenues of learning through service. Through academics, campus activities, spiritual life resources, athletics, community service, and missions, DBU students have the opportunity not only to learn about servant leadership but also to practice it. The long-standing partnership between the University's Academic and Student Affairs divisions enthusiastically views service-learning as a shared significant initiative.

### **Service-Learning Liaison**

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